

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 04214 072303Z

11

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4214

E.O. 11652: GSD-21/31/79

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NPG SUB-GROUP STUDY ON WARSAW PACT STRATEGY AND DOCTRINE

REF: (A) STATE 167068; (B) USNATO 3717

BEGIN SUMMARY: FIRST MEETING OF NPG SUB-GROUP CONVENED TO STUDY WARSAW PACT POLITICAL/MILITARY STRATEGY AND DOCTRINE WAS HELD AT NATO HEADQUARTERS ON 6 SEPTEMBER. GROUP MADE SLOW PROGRESS IN DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC ITEMS TO BE COVERED IN STUDY, BUT AGREED THAT NETHERLANDS DELEGATION WOULD DEVELOP EXPANDED OUTLINE AND, ON BASIS OF FURTHER DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING (25-26 SEPTEMBER), WILL ATTEMPT FIRST DRAFT OF STUDY. END SUMMARY.

1. NATIONS REPRESENTED, IN ADDITION TO U.S., WERE NETHERLANDS (CHAIRMAN, BGEN ROS, (RNLA); DENMARK; FRG; CANADA AND UK. IMS AND IS REPRESENTATIVES ALSO ATTENDED. NATIONAL DELGATIONS OTHER THAN U.S. ALL INCLUDED REPRESENTATION FROM CAPITALS, IN SOME CASES INCLUDING INTELLIGENCE SPECIALISTS.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 04214 072303Z

2. CHAIRMAN BEGAN MEETING BY REFERRING TO "STUDY OUTLINE," REPEATED REF (B), AND NOTING NETHERLANDS POSITION THAT STUDY SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTERS AT SPRING 1974 NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING. U.S. REP

(CLINARD), PER REFTELS, EXPRESSED VIEW THAT STUDY OUTLINE WAS TOO BROAD, GIVEN NATURE OF MINISTERIAL MANDATE IN ANKARA MINUTE (NPG/D(73)7) AND TIME AVAILABLE. DENMARK SUPPORTED THIS POSITION, AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION MADE IT CLEAR THAT MOST DELEGATIONS DOUBTED UTILITY OF WIDE-RANGING STUDY OF PACT HISTORY AND POLITICAL AND MILITARY POLICY.

3. WHILE DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE ELEMENTS OF SUTY (SEE BELOW) CONSUMED ENTIRE DAY, LITTLE PROGRESS WAS MADE. AT UK SUGGESTION, GROUP AGREED THAT ANOTHER MEETING SHOULD BE HELD SOON, FOR PURPOSE OF SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION, INCLUDING REMARKS BY EXPERTS, TO BE FOLLOWED BY PORDUCTION OF FIRST DRAFT OF A "THINK PEICE" ON THE SUBJECT BY NETHERLANDS DELGATION. U.S. REP UNDERTOOK TO ASK WASHINGTON TO SEND EXPERTS TO NEXT MEETING. GROUP FURTHER RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE OF MC/161 (WARSAW PACT STRENGTH AND CAPABILITIES) TO CONDUCT OF A STUDY OF THIS SORT, AND SAW IT AS POINT OF DEPARTURE ON WHICH GROUP MIGHT ELABORATE AND COMMENT.

4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PAPER ENTITLED "PROPOSED ELEMENTS OF STUDY" WHICH WAS CIRCULATED BY NETHERLANDS DELEGATION AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION, AS AMENDED DURING MEETING. NETHERLANDS DELEGATION WILL DRAFT AND CIRCULATE MORE ELABORATE OUTLINE PAPER OF THIS SORT BEFORE NEXT MEETING.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. AIM AND PURPOSE
- B. ANALYSIS OF THE MISSION
- C. ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS GOVERNING THE STUDY
- D. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

II. THE WP POLITICO/MILITARY STRATEGY

- A. SHORT HISTORY POLITICO/MILITARY SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT (COMMENT: ALL AGREED THAT THIS PORTIN SHOULD BE VERY SHORT, IF INCLUDED AT ALL.)
- B. CURRENT VIEWS ON STRATEGY (COMMENT: THIS SECTION WOULD BEGIN WITH A DISCUSSION OF MC/161. FRG DELEGATION CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 04214 072303Z

UNDERTOOK TO PREPARE A SUMMARY OF THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF MC/161 FOR DISTRIBUTION AT THE NEXT MEETING.)

- C. INFLUENCE OF CHINA AS NUCLEAR POWER (COMMENT: IN RESPONSE TO U.S. AND OTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS ITEM, NETHERLANDS CHAIRMAN NOTED HIS MOD'S PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT. ALL AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT TREATMENT IN THIS STUDY SHOULD BE BRIEF.)

III. THE POSSIBLE WP POLITICAL THEORY CONCERNING THE TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

- A. WP USING NUCLEAR WEAPONS FIRST
- B. WP REACTION TO NATO INITIAL USE

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

IMS VOLUNTEERED TO SEEK TO PRODUCE A SUMMARY OF WARSAW PACT NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES, WHICH MIGHT FORM AN ANNEX TO THE STUDY.

T. ACTION REQUESTED: WHILE WASHINGTON PARTICIPATION WAS NOT NECESSARY AT THIS PRELIMINARY MEETING, WE HOPE THAT WASHINGTON WILL BE ABLE TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO NEXT MEETING OF THE STUDY GROUP, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON 25-26 SEPTEMBER AT NATO HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS. WE FEEL IT IS DESIRABLE THAT AT LEAST ONE EXPERT ON WARSAW PACT CAPABILITIES AND POLITICAL/MILITARY DOCTRINE WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH MC/161 AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT NATO-AGREED INTELLIGENCE ATTEND.
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